WASHINGTON, March 31 (R). - The United States today reported the worst one-month trade deficit in its history, and the dollar immediately plunged on world convency markets. The commerce department's amountment of a \$4.52 billion deficit in February surprised intercy traders, setting off a fresh bout of dollar selling shie major foreign exchange markets of London, Frank-tz, Zurich and New York, Imports totalled nearly 55 billion dollars, the largest ever for one month and more than \$2 billion from the January level. Foreign matural gas and other energy-related goods accounted bout a quarter of the import bill.

THE PARTY OF JOSEIGN !

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jurian Press Foundation جوردن تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالأتجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية «الراي»

AMMAN, SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1978 — RABIE AL THANI 22, 1398

Israelis release four Arabs

TEL AVIV, March 31 (AP). - Israel released four prisoners taken in southern Lebanon and handed them over to the International Red Cross today at the border town of Rosh Hanigra, the army spokesman said. One of the four was an Egyptian and the other three were Lebanese the spokesman said, and all had been suspected of being Palestinian guerrillas. There was no indication of why the four had been released. Israel took about 20 prisoners in its invasion of southern Lebanon March 14. Meanwhile, the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) prepared to accept reinforcements and supplies from Europe.

Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 plastres; Lebanon 75 plastres; Sandi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

Barre holds post as France emphasises

priority of economy ARIS, March 31 (R). — Fren-ir President Valery Giscard Estaing tonight re-appointed I Raymond Barre Prime Mi-

ister and asked him to form

hume 3, Number 717

new government. is one of a to The president's decision was initially. The president's decision was initially inficially amounced seven hour many but was after M. Barre and his goal were law resigned at a special al were liveriment resigned at a special cationality a cabinet session.

The resignation automatically followed the general election victory of the ruling centreight coalition parties over the pposition Communists and So-ialists earlier this month.

mich Cenn M. Barre, a former economi-icputment is professor who has been pri-tice in the minister since mid-1976, had the help of led of succeeding himself since and Crescer redly comfortable win over the epitals on the cialist-Communist opposition.

His chances were strengtheed by President Giscard d'E-taing's post-election assertion hat the top policy priority renained the economy. M. Barre's economic role in

Public, private

AGOS, Nîgeria, March 31 (AP).

urives in oil-rich Nigeria to-

ight confronted by deep offi-

✓ave criticised Brazil's military

overnment on its human ri-

This was one of the issues

mich have led to strained re-

ations between the United

Mr. Carter, however, said in news conference held before alks with President Emesto

seisel yesterday that Brazil

Fas improving the situation, lthough differences still exis-

ed on what procedure should

re adopted to guarantee indi-

"As a leader of a nation I eserve the right to meet whom please and I think this is a constructive thing which will give me a much better under-

nding of what exists in Bra-

The meeting was not expec-ed to please the president's of-ficial hosts.

The critics, including two

Roman Catholic cardinals,

pent 45 minutes exchanging

riews with President Carter

no departed afterward for President Carter and his 500-

strong entourage -- about half

are journalists - are due to.

The three-day state of the control of the control

The three-day state visit, the first to Africa by a U.S. president, has had a cool reception

n the largely government-owned local press of black Africa's

richest and most populous na-

"Nigerians are understanda-

bly unenthusiastic about this

visit, just as they are wary of the new friendship that has

grown by leaps and bounds be-tween Nigerian rulers and the

new administration in Ameri-

New Nigerian in a front-page

African welcome

fled with platitudes or decla-

'rations of good intentions,"

But as with other newspa-pers, it mellowed to add;

"All in all, in spite of our re-

servations and apprehension on the role of Americans in Afri-

ca. we offer President Jimmy Carter and his large entourage

said the editorial

"Nigerians will not be satis-

editorial.

observed the respected

is and public suspicion about

President Carter ended a rief visit to Brazil today by reeting prominent figures who

N.S. motives in Africa.

tates and Brazil.

ridual rights.

il" he said.

. hts record.

- U.S. President Jimmy Carter

the outgoing government was emphasised by the fact that he also held the finance portfolio. The 54-year-old prime mini-ster will now spend the we-ekend pondering the composi-tion of the new administration

tion of the new administration, which political analysts expect to differ considerably from the last cabinet. While the ruling Gaullists, Republicans and Centrists are

still likely to provide the cabinet's backone, the president wants M. Barre to bring in new faces. Leftwing politicians and union leaders crossed the thresh-

old of the Elysee Presidential Palace for the first time in years -- in the case of Com-munist chief Georges Marchais, three decades -- and outlined their priority grievances to M. Giscard d'Estaing yesterday.

The president has said he

wants to promote a more relaxed working relationship be-tween the government and the opposition, such as exists in Britain, West Germany and the

the traditional African wel-

At the heart of these suspi-

cions is what is viewed here as

past U.S. policy in support of

white-minority governments in

the subcontinent and America's

to urge continued support of American policy in Southern

Africa, an improved investment

climate for foreign companies

The United States is likely

neglect of black Africa.

United States abroad.

black

Sadat prepares message to President Carter on talks

CAIRO, March 31 (R). — Egyptian President Anwar Sadat today prepared a message to President Carter on the outcome of two days of talks with Israeli Defence Minister Ezer Weizman, a presidential spokes-

Mr. Weizman returned home today after failing to persuade President Sadat to revive peace talks

Informed sources said President Sadat was keen

between their countries.

The presidential spokesman said yesterday Egypt was not prepared to resume stalled political and military talks until Israel changed its stand. He said today's meeting was a completion of yesterday's discussions, but gave no details.

not to close the door on the peace-seeking process. Egypt suspended Middle East peace negotiations earlier this year because of what it considered Israeli intransigence on basic issues -- withdrawal from occupied Arab territories and self-determination for the Palestinians. The Cairo newspaper Al Ahram said Mr. Weizman had come to Egypt to help Israel get out of an impasse in which, it said, recent Israeli-American talks in Washington ended.

Guerrillas pessimistic on early Israeli pull-out

they did not believe there wodoubts an early Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon,
where the front lines were reported quiet for the second

day runing.
"They want to stay. They wait Carter on first are going to table so many conditions for their withdrawal that no-one will be able to agree to them," said an official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Africa Many Lepanese such views.
There have been difficulties
There have been difficulties bein the deployment of troops belonging to the newly establi-shed United Nations interim Force in southern Lebanon (UNIFIL), planned to eventually number 4,000 men.

A contingent of French paratroopers based in the Palestinian-controlled southern port of Tyre has so far failed in attempts to occupy the Qasmiyeh bridge carrying the main guerrilla supply route to the

George Habash, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, said today that Palestinians would not budge from their present positions in south Lebanon.

operating in Nigeria and incre-ased imports of U.S. goods to ease a \$5.1 billion trade deficit with Nigeria which is Ameri-ca's second-largest supplier of imported oil after Saudi Ara-He told a mass meeting here: bia, providing 20 per cent of "We shall not allow any one to ask us to withdraw one mithe crude oil purchased by the llimetre from the areas where Palestinian revolution is After Nigeria Mr. Carter will visit Liberia before heading deployed ... we wish to the U.N. interim force

BEIRUT, March 31 (R). — Pal-estinian commandos said today that we cannot know anything called ceasefire.

No interference

It was reported from Paris that Mr. Arafat said today his commandos would help the U.N. peace-keeping force in south Lebanon as long as it did not interfere with Palestinian military action or presence in

His remarks in an interview with the French Communist daily l'Humanite, referred specifically to a French paratroop regiment serving under the U.N. banner in the Tyre area where there has been tension

involving Palestinian guerrillas Mr. Arafat said: "As far as the French troops are concerned, we will treat them the same way as the other U.N. contingents as long as they pursue the aims of the United Nations and they do not interfere in the action and presence in Lebanon of our military forces."

Mr. Arafat told l'Humanite that the presence of the com-mandos was based on the Cairo and Riyadh agreements between the Lebanese authorities and Palestinians,

Two prominent Lebanese le-ftists said in interviews yesterday that they suspected the French paratroops were trying to neutralise the guerrillas in favour of the central Lebane se authorities and particularly the Lebanese Christian Maro-

Weizman returns from without progress

TEL AVIV. March 31 (R). — Israeli Defence Minister Ezer Weizman returned today from Cairo where talks with President Anwar Sadat and other Egyptian leaders failed to produce an agreement for restarting Middle East peace talks, airport sources said. Mr. Weizman landed at a minor airport in Tel Aviv, dodging newsmen waiting at Ben Gurion international airport outside the city.

Mr. Weizman immediately reported to Prime Minister Menachem Begin in Jerusalem and told correspondents later: "I have never been a pessimist in my life and I am not pessimis-

tic now." One government official, commenting on Egyptian statements that no progress was made during the Defence Minister's visit to Egypt which began yes-terday and ended this morning, said: "It could not have been a complete washout otherwise Weizman would not have sta-

yed on.
"Presumably he brought back some Egyptian ideas which will be discussed and if any new decisions are required the matter can be dealt with at Sunday's cabinet meeting."

Mr. Weizman -- who stayed overnight at the Tahra Palace in the Cairo suburb of Heliopolis -- held a second round of talks today with President Sadat, Vice President Hosni Mubarak and War Minister General Mohammad Abdul Ghani Gamassi.

Then, after flying into a mi-nor airport in Tel Aviv, he went by helicopter to Jerusalem to report to Premier Begin in a meeting that lasted 40 mi-

An American (ABC) news report said President Sadat was furious and felt deceived because Mr. Weizman brought no significantly new proposals to Cairo

But Israeli radio said Mr. Weizman was reported to have told Mr. Begin in a telephone call from Cairo last night that his talks had been "interest-

There has been strong domestic and international pressu-re for Mr. Begin to revise his policy on the future of the West Bank and the issue of Israeli settlements in occupied Arab territories -- the two main stu-mbling blocks to resumed tal-

Government officials said the decision for Mr. Weizman to
go to Cairo involved only a
small circle of close advisers
to Mr. Begin.

They said they believed Mr.
Weizman had an idea, which

they did not disclose, which he wanted to explore with the Egyptians and that neither Mr. Begin nor Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan wished to stand

in his way.

It was clear, the officials said, that Mr. Weizman had taken some ideas to Cairo since he would not wish to en-danger his personal relationship with President Sadat or General Gamassi by going empty-

Analysts here believed that a point was being reached where the United States would step in with its own proposals on a declaration of principles

for a Middle East settlement
-- the key to resumed talks. U.S. officials have said in the past this option was being kept open and the analysts said Washington could move after Mr. Dayan's expected visit to the United States later this

Missiles for Israel

WASHINGTON, (AP).- The Pentagon notified Congress yesterday it plans to sell Israel 60 improved Hawk antiaircraft missiles and two high frequency radar test sets for \$9 million.

Officials said this proposed sale has been in the works for some time and has no relation to the Carter administration's plans to sell war planes to Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia Congress has 30 days to act on the proposed sale.

Botswana troops shoot three escaping

GABORONE, Botswana, March 31 (AP). — Two South African game rangers and a British tou-rist were shot and killed by Botswana soldiers, the office of President Sir Seretse Khama announced here today.

The statement was the first official comment on the shoot-ings, which occured Wednesday near the convergence of the borders of South Africa, Rhodesia and Botswana and said both South Africans and the Britisher were all wearing "militarytype-clothes" when they were area of an army base.

The statement said the three attacked the guards, grabbed a rifle and began running away. One detainee allegedly pointed the gun at the Botswana sold-iers and the commander ordered his men to fire, killing all three.

Meanwhile most of 432 school children who were abducted from Rhodesia on Wednesday left on their way back home today in a convoy of police trucks, a senior Botswana offi-

The country's chief of security, Mr. David Mophuthing, told reporters 382 pupils were 50 had decided to stay and were being treated as refugees seeking asylum.

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A failure is confirmed

Is there no limit to Zionist gall? No wonder President Sadat is angry. We would be too if Israeli Defence Minister Ezer Weizman dropped in for a chat about peace and all he conveyed of substance was a pledge that Israeli troops would withdraw from south Lebanon as soon as United Nations peacekeeping forces took control of the area. To make that sort of statement, you have to have two things. First, you need to have about 25,000 troops occupying south Lebanon, and second you have to have an amount of untempered gall proportionally as vast. Mr. Weizman has both, which, if he thinks about it, is probably one reason why nearly half a year after President Sadat's extraordinary trip to Jerusalem we have less peace, not more peace, in the Middle East.

The Israeli position today is preposterous, and if it were the position of any other country in any other negotiating situation, it would be thrown out the window in minutes. But because Israel is Israel, and because it has a veto power over the ethical and political exhortations of nearly all major Western states, Israel is treated with a soft touch. There is nothing in sight -- international law, United Nations resolutions, the consensus of the entire world about a territorial withdrawal and recognising Palestinian national rights -- that Israel does not blatantly disregard in its present position. And what does it get in return? It seems to get an enormous amount of deference from the Western world that keeps it pumped up with money and guns.

There is only so much that any human being can take, and we think that the latest decisions of the Israeli Knesset in supporting the policies of Israeli Premier Menachem Begin, coupled with the half-hearted suggestions that Mr. Weizman has made to President Sadat, should just about toll the death knell for President Sadat's initiative. There comes a point in any failed adventure where to continue just for the sake of continuity only piles humiliation upon failure. Mr. Sadat has had honourable intentions, but he has obviously been unable to budge the Israelis, and has gotten no further with the Americans.

If Mr. Sadat does not learn from his failures and cut short his losses, he will only perpetuate them on an increasingly more humiliating scale. And failure, as we see from Mr. Weizman's trip, is all we have today.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Jordanian newspapers Friday commented on what His Majesty King Hussein told visiting American businessmen Thursday concerning Jordan's stand on peace in the Middle East.

The King has exposed the myth fabricated by the Zionist lobby in the United States that a strong Israel is a moderate Israel.

AL RA'I said in its editorial.

Under this spurious pretext, the Zionists were able to transport whole sections of the U.S. arsenal to Tel Aviv with the result that Israel rebelled against U.N. Security Resolution 242, which Menachem Begin scotched with one stroke of the pen, the news-

Taking the same view, AL DUSTOUR says that in his meeting with the American businessmen King Hussein pointed out that the Middle East now stands at a crossroads, either a just and lasting peace will be achieved by Israel committing itself to Resolution 242 or the chance for a peaceful settlement will slip away.

In his column in AL RAT, Jum'a Hammad calls on the Arab peoples no longer to lament such occasions as the Balfour Declaration, the 15th of May (the establishment of Israel) or the 5th of June (the Arab defeat of 1967). These events, episodes of the Zionist invasion of Palestine, have gone down in the annals of history, he says. Rather, the Arabs should observe and cherish such days as the Day of the Land which was marked yesterday throughout all occupied Palestine. This commemorates the occasion two years ago when the Arab inhabitants of the occupied land rose against the Israeli policy of expansion and the confisca-

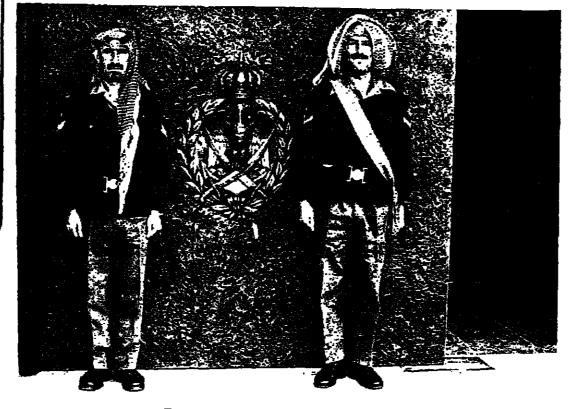
tion of land. Six Arabs were killed in clashes at that time.

Events come and go, but the earth is for ever. "It is our life; it is the compass that shows our future direction and existence," Mr. Hammad says.

WHAT'S GOING ON

An exhibition of books on fine arts is opening today at the University of Jordan Library. The exhibition, lasting for one week, is part of the National Book Week celebrations.

Martyrs' Memorial Museum takes up history of Jordan's armed forces since the Arab Revolt



Soldiers on guard duty at the Museum stand on either side of the badge of the Jordanian Armed Forces on the entrance door, cast in bronze.

Text and photos by Marianne Pearson

Jordan's newest museum the Martyrs' Memorial Museum, administered by the Jordanian Armed Forces General Headquarters, is attracting over 2,000 visitors a month. Col. (retired) Abdul Majid Jayzazi, Director of the Museum, says that most visitors are Jordanian, but many foreign tourists find their way to it also, despite the fact that it is little publicised.

The museum was opened in

The museum was opened in July 1977 as part of the silver jubilee celebrations. Located on a high hill covered with pine trees behind the sports city stadium, the approach is up a long steep ramp which is flanked by sidewalks with stairs in tiers. The building, shaped like the Kaaba in Mecca, gradually and impressively is revealed to visitors mounting

A band of black basalt covered with verses from the Koran is the only exterior decoration of the monumental building, built of white Jordanian stone. Similarly, inside the building above the displays

are glass panels bearing verses from the Koran. All these verses call on the people to fight in the name of God and tell of the contributions of warriors and martyrs.

A large courtyard surrounds the museum in which are ranged World War II tanks and guns used by the Jordanian Armed Forces. These are painted with a protective coat of pale gold enamel, and are often decorated by children who find climbing them an irresistible challenge.

The doors of the museum, with the badge of the Jordanian Armed Forces on them, are cast in bronze. The entrance way has one-way glass which appears dark from the outside, but from the inside gives a gold-toned view of the city from the hill. The interior makes use of Italian marble and polished granite from Jordan.

Temperatures are cool inside, ideal for the exhibits. There is no air-conditioning, but since the building is built into the hill and much of it underground, there doesn't need to be.

e. A green-carpeted ramp leads the visitor past the exhibits arranged in chronological order from the time of the Arab revolt under Sharif Hussein up to the present. The displays were designed by Dr. Christopher Rhodes of the Imperial War Museum in London. They use dioramas, models, authentic weapons and costumes to tell the story of the armed forces. Historic photographs from the Imperial War Museum's collection, many of them large blow-ups, are used profusely and with good effect. Description of the displays is in

Arabic and English.

The British adventurer T.E.
Lawrence ("Lawrence of Arabia"), whose military renown has fared worse than his literary reputation, is not mentioned.

The Museum is meant not only to instruct visitors about the history of the armed forces but also to serve as a tribute to those who died in its service. At the end of the ramp is a listing in gold of their names and home towns behind glass on a green background.

Beyond this memorial case

a roof garden, symbolising

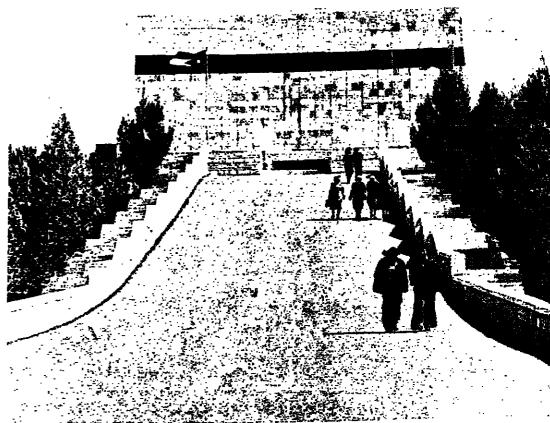
the ultimate aim of the armed

chibits order of water surround an olive tree, planted in nine metres of earth. Visiting dignitaries are asked to ceremoniously water it. In spite of the pampering the first olive tree received it did not flourish and has recently been replaced by a healthier specimen.

A special feature of the museic and sound effects at 4:30 and of Fridays and Symdays.

sic and sound effects at 4:30 p.m. on Fridays and Sundays, the museum's busiest days. Four projectors, computer-controlled, show on the walls of the central core of the building the story of the armed forces. Nearly 1,000 slides are used in the sophisticated 25-minute presentation of the story of the Jordanian Armed Forces -- navy and air forces as well as army - - the training of the armed forces and the services they render as well as the services they receive, such as those of Al Hussein Medical Centre.

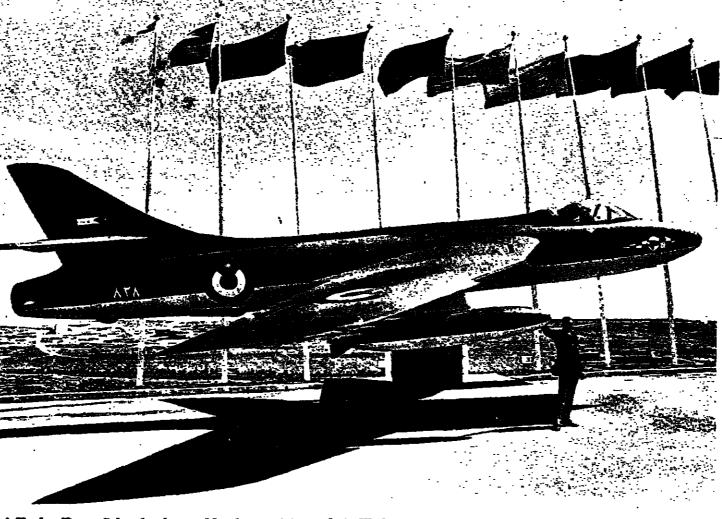
The museum is open every day except Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.



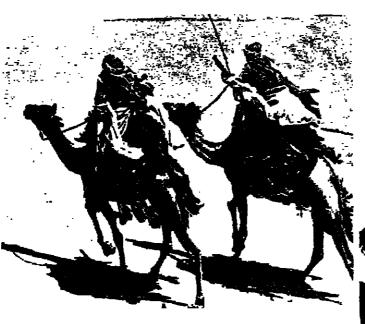
The Martyrs' Memorial Museum takes up Jordan's history somewhat after the archaeologics museums leave off, with the beginning of the Arab Revolt in 1916.



A green-curpeted ramp leads the visitor past exhibits of the history of the armed forces. On the left is the large central structure on which slide shows are projected downstairs and which contains a massive amount of soil for the olive tree in the roof garden. A reflection is seen on the polished Italian marble floor downstairs.



A Hawker Hunter fighter-bomber used by the armed forces during World War II is in a side courtyard. The flags of the fifteen regiments fly behind it.



An historical photograph from the Imperial War Museum, London, reproduced by courtesy of the Armed Forces General Headquarters, shows soldiers in 1918, the time of the Arab Revolt.



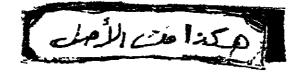
Director of the museum, Col. (retired) Jayzazi tells a group of visiting school girls about the significance of the peace garden on

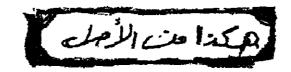


Maj. (retired) All Rifsi, quartermester of the museum, supervise the replacement of the olive tree on the museum's garden roof with a vigorous specimen from the Jordan Valley on March 11.



with a protective cost of enamel. This is a British Saladie arm vehicle with a 76 way says





Clubs, Societies, Sports Groupslet us know what you are doing

hibitions, your meetings and outings that are open to the public which appear in "What's going on." Help us to help you public by your public erents. Charify bazzars, school fish too latings on the day of the avant.

Our "What's going on" section needs YOUR, help if it is going to be a success. It's the news of your clubs, your exhibitions, your exhibitions, your meetings and continue that are once to the Amman-Swellch most between

Photographers wanted

The Jordan Times wants to see the work of photographers with black and white prints of any and all scenes in Jordan, either individual pictures or collections of photo-stories on a single theme. We are interested in publishing individual photos or photostories on a regular basis, and we'd like to see the work of local photographers, both Jordanians and non-Jordanians alike.

If you have photos to show or would like to do some feature photos for the Jordan Times, please contact Mr. Khouri at the Jordan Times offices any day between 9:00 and 12:00 a.m. and between 4:00' and 8:00 p.m. to make an appointment.



VACANT POSITION FOR A TRANSLATOR

April was relief in the large of the large in

AMERICAN EMBASSY offers career position as translator, Arabic to English. Some night and weekend work required. Applicants should have fluent, near-native knowledge of English. Experience in translation and ability to type helpful but not mandatory. Good educational background required. Send resume of education and work experience to American Embassy, Box 354, Amman. Include return address and phone number if applicable. Do not apply in

"The best person to sit with is a book" The slogan to note during National Book Week

By a Jordan Times staff reporter

Today, Saturday April 1, marks the beginning of National Book Week in Jordan. In a statement a few days ago procla-iming the event, Minister of Culture and Youth Sharif Faw-waz Sharaf stressed the importance of the occasion in the pursuit of cultural development and urged the citizens of Jordan to take more interest in culture as a dynamic movement

on the road to progress.

To find out exactly how Jordan was going to celebrate the event, the Jordan Times sp-oke to Dr. Ahmad Sharkas; Director General of the Department of National Libraries, Documentation and Archives. (DNLDA) which is an indepen-dent directorate serving, among many other things, as an umbrella group, a clearing house and the highest authority in the Kingdom for books, libraries and information.

The idea for National Book Week, Dr. Sharkas said, came as a result of Jordan's participation in 1972 in International Book Year. It was realised then that Jordan could benefit from setting aside a time each year during which particular emphasis was put on reading and the importance of knowledge to developing countries such as

At present Jordan is well behind other developing countries in respect to reading and in-formation. Less than the established level of 2,5 books per person set for developing nations are available to the Jord-

Posters and book-marks prepared by DNLDA

Due to the fact that it is desperately understaffed at the moment and is in the process of moving premises, DNLDA has not been able to organise an architecture item! an exhibition itself or do as much as it would have liked to for National Book Week, but it has made many large, bright posters of orange, violet and green, bearing the same em-blem as used during a book exhibition last year organised by the department to celebrate the silver jubilee of his Maj-esty King Hussein. These post-ers, which are appearing all over Amman and throughout the Kingdom from Irbid in the north down to Aqaba, carry quotations relevant to the importance of books in life.

ey appear in Arabic, have been translated as follows: "The most noble place in the universe is the saddle of a horse and the best person to sit with is a book": Al Mutanabi,

The quotations, although th-

"Take the book forcefully": the Quran
"Oh God, teach him the bo-

ok": from prophetic tradition. And a much more familiar one to English speakers: "Reading is to the mind wh-

at exercise is to the body": Sir Richard Steele 1672-1729 In addition, the department has had book-marks printed, bearing the same emblem and

one of the quotations. The book-marks will be distributed free of charge during National Book Week by many libraries and bookshops.

Discounts at bookstores

Speaking of bookshops, one piece of news that will please the English speaking community is that one or two enterprising bookshops in Amman namely Amman Bookshop at the Third Circle and Al Muhtaseb Bookshop downtown have agreed to offer a 25 per cent discount on all books sold during the week -- a real boon, to those of us who turn to books on all occasions from birthdays to congratulations to simpreading them ourselves, and opportunity to stock up on all those titles we've been meaning to buy but were somehow dissuaded from doing so upon reading the price tags.

Dr. Sharkas hopes this discount will also encourage Jordanians, and especially women, to get into the reading habit. Why especially women? Well. as they make up 50 per cent of

the population in Jordan and are daily faced with the problems of trying to reconcile an-cient traditional ideas about a woman's role in society with Twentieth Century ideas im-ported from the West, Dr. Sh-arkas feels that wider reading would help women to cope with the changing scene in Jordan, and encourage them to play a fuller role in Jordan's develop-

Other organisations which will be actively celebrating Na-tional Book Week are the University of Jordan Library, the Hava Arts Centre, the Amman Municipality Library and the Ministry of Education,

Haya Arts Centre and U. of J. Library

The University Library is holding an exhibition of books on fine arts which will run from Saturday April 1 to Saturday April 8. The Haya Arts Centre is celebrating National Book Week in a way it feels most appropriate and valuable in encouraging children to make more use of books in their lives. During the week the centre's mobile library will be making many extra trips out to remote villages and small towns. They will not only be taking with them more books for children to borrow but will also be giving out free copies of a book

called "My colour trip in Jor-

dan" which was written and published in Jordan by the centre. Along with this brightly coloured and beautifully illustrated book the children will receive a poster which they will be able to colour in themsel-

Also during the week the centre will have more story reading periods for the children and will be organising an exhi-bition of the books in the library. The books will not be for

Individual contributions

Individuals are also contribu-ting to National Book Week. A good example being Miss Linda Layne, a young American with a degree in Womens st-udies and anthropology Miss Layne is compiling a bibliography of all books and documents (in English) on women in Jord-

One of Dr. Sharkas' students in a two-year degree course in Library and Information Science at the University of Jordan will follow up Miss Lavne's work by helping to compile a bibliography on the same subject in Arabic,

The other students in the course, being teachers, have agreed to support the week in their schools by putting special emphasis on reading and encouraging the children to make more use of the library faciliti-

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es available to them.

The Ministry of Education, in a further attempt to reach

the younger generation, has organised a book reading competition for children of all ages, as well as inaugurating 20 school libraries in governorates throughout Jordan

Young people outside Amman have also been preparing for this week. The Irbid Youth Centre has worked hard to prepare for its exhibition of Jordanian books being held today in the Irbid Chamber of Com-

Also as part of National Book Week, Dr. Sharkas will try to visit most of the 30 or so main libraries in Jordan, During these visits he will discuss the work carried out in these libraries, their achievements in relation to encouraging people to make use of them and the problems they are facing whether they be financial or orga-

The outcome of this trip, Dr. Sharkas hopes, will be the convening of a national conference on public libraries and their place in Jordan's development which will be a major step towards much needed nation-

wide coordination in this field. "In the meantime", Dr. Sharkas continued "we ask people during this week particularly to reflect on the importance of books and reading, and especially their importance to young growing countries like Jordan."

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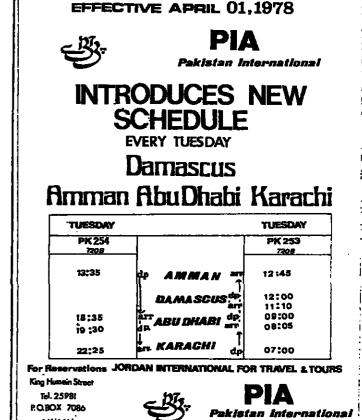
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Sign-on Morning Show News Bulletin Morning Show News Headlines Morning Show Jordan Weekly Sign-off Sign-on and News Headlines Pop Session News Summary Pop Session

News Bulletin 14:00 14:10 14:30 Story time 15:00 Concert Hour Pop Session 17:00

9:30 Reportage

Channel 6:

Varieties

Varieties

Rhoda

7:45 8:30

9:00

10:00 10:15

11:00 Justice

News in Hebrew

News in English Bronk

The David Nixon show

Melody time Pop Session 17:30 News Summary 18:00 Album Review 18:03 News Bulletin 19:00 Music 19:10 Sign-off 19:30

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13:15 People and Politics 13:30 Theme and Variations News; Press Review 14:00 News: Saturday Special Radio Newsreel Saturday Special News; Commentary Saturday Special News; Press Review 15:15 16:00 News; News about Bri-16:15 News; Book Choice 17:15 17:45 What's New Sports Round-up From the Weeklies Do You Remember? Letter from London 18:00 News; News about Br-News; Reflections Radio Newsreel 18:30 Theatre of the Air 19:30 Frank Chacksfield Command Performance 20:00 News; Commentary 20:15 People and Politics 20:30 Command Performance News; Press Seview 21:00 Scotland Today David Copperfield 21:15 The Melody Makers Letter from London Matthew on Music News; News about Bri-21:40 Books and Writers News; Music Now Reflections You are what you eat Radio Newsreel 22:45 Sports Round-up 23:00 News; Commentary Jazz for the Asking Jazz for the Asking 12:45 Sports Round-up

VOICE OF AMERICA GMT Show Music USA News and Topical Re-19:00 The Breakfast Show: 03:00 News ports on the hour and 28 min 19:15 News Horizons 19:30 Studio One after each hour. News and New Pro-20:00 Special English, News/ Words and their Stories ducts USA Critics Choice The Concert Hall Issues in the News 21:00 News and New Produc-17:30 Special English, News/ 21:15 Critics Choice Words and their Stor-21:30 23:00 ies, Feature : People in Issues in the News World News; Commen-America, News Sum-

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Muscat, Doha Beirut (MEA) 8:45 Tehran 8:55 Cairo (EA) Karachi, Dubai 9:00 Beirut Benghazi Damascus 11:00 Vienna, Geneva, Ams-Aqaba Beirut terdam Copenhagen 17:20 18:00 18:45 Copenhagen, Frankfurt 11:00 Benghazi Cairo Paris, London 13:00 Jeddah 14:10 Jeddah Beirut (MEA) 20:00 20:05 Jeddah London (BA) Damascus 22:30 Damascus Kuwait 20:30 Departures : 21:00 Abu Dhabi, Dubai 6:05 Damascus, Munich, Fr-Rawalpindi (BA)

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Missicipal water service	•	113-500
Time (in Arabic)		

MF members agree to give fund new powers, abolish official gold hits price, increase SDR use

WASHINGTON, March 31 (R). — Members of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have agreed to give the fund wide new powers over exchange rate practices, to abolish the official price of gold and to increase use of the IMF's special drawing right (SDR).

the fund's 132 members, representing over 80 per cent of the voting power within the fund, have now ratified the changes, senior IMF officials articles of agreement and is

said vesterday. The special drawing right this weekend.

ficials complained yesterday.

se of the Israeli invasion.

76 cents per kilo for oranges.

fruit and tobacco, he said.

Centeri's assistant said.

helore the Israelis invaded on March 15.

and Industry, Mohammad Zaatari, said.

ebanon stands

tobacco

BEIRUT, Lebanon, March 31 (AP). — Lebanon stands to lose about \$30 million worth of citrus fruit and tobacco remain-

ing unharvested in Israeli-occupied south Lebanon, trade of-

tons of citrus fruit was picked from groves in the south, just

the Chairman of south Lebanoo's Chamber of Commerce

of April, the fruits will be plagued and damaged," he warned.

amorates have asked the government for \$10 million in aid

to tobacco farmers who failed to cultivate their fields becau-

Nearly 50 per cent of the country's estimated 250,000

The remainder will have to be picked by the end of April,

"If the Israelis do not evacuate the south before the end

Also, parliament deputies from southern Lebanese gov-

The government is expected to respond favourably, Mr.

Mr. Zaatari said it was too early to estimate the damage

The supply of citrus fruit to Beirut markets has dropped

Lebanon's traditional markets, mainly in the Gulf region,

Some 800 fishermen's families south of the port city of

Prices of fish have been increasing every day, culminat-

caused by Israeli air and sea bombardments to the citrus and

from 250 tons a day to 60 tons, with prices rising from 30 cents per kilo for lemons to 57 cents per kilo and from 35 to

have turned to Egypt, Spain, Greece and Turkey for citrus

Sidon have also gone out of business because of the invasion,

leaving only 20 per cent of the southern Lebanese coastline

ing to a hike of about 180 per cent yesterday morning," an official of the Beirut Chamber of Commerce said.

More than 60 per cent of is the fund's internal account-By abolishing the official ing unit.
The agreement comes in the price of gold, the IMF now allows members to buy and form of ratification of the seseil gold among themselves at cond amendment to the fund's market prices, something they have been unable to do beexpected to become official fore. But officials do not ex-

this will spark off any rush by central banks into the gold market. The farming of the amendment was completed in April 1976 and it has taken two

years to ratify. The IMF now has powers to express its views on exchange rate policies followed by individual countries and allows the managing director to initiate special discussions about currencies if this is felt warranted.

No hard and fast rules have been laid down, however, as to just how this will be accomplished. The officials said procedures will have to be worked out over a long per-iod of time and will be adjusted as necessary. Wider SDR use

Other international institutions such as the World Bank and the regional development banks will now be ablie to use the SDR in their transactions if they wish.

But IMF officials said any

wider use of the accounting unit will be limited to governments and international financial institutions, and the private sector will not be abto make use of it.

The amendment also provides for the establishment of a new "council" as an organ of the IMF. It is envisaged that if the council is established, it will have the power of decision unlike the present committee which can only act as an advisory body.

Members also approved a sixth increase in IMF quotas. A country's quota governs how much it can borrow from the fund to help deal with balance of payments prob-

LONDON, March 31 (R). -With five supertankers to be mothballed and its largest oil refinery shut down for two months because of a lack of demand, British Petroleum (B.P.) yesterday reported some typical problems facing international oil companies in a world trade recession.

The B.P. annual report published today also listed other problems, such as losses incurred because of erratic currency fluctuations, the weakness of the chemical industry and the likelihood of having to wind up a \$50 million animal feed plant in Italy because of objections from environmental groups.

B.P.'s main problem in 1977 has been an oil glut caused by the fact that production in the non-communist world last year reached an all-time high of 2,423 million tons. B.P. Chairman David

Steel forecast an increase in world oil production for the next decade. After that a decline will begin. In spite of this, five supertankers totalling 1.1 million tons deadweight are to be laid up indennitely in the Far Eastern Sultanate of

The present surplus of tanker tonnage is a world-wide problem. One B.P. supertanker has been in Brunei ever since it was bu ilt in 1975 and the company has decided to use its experience to run a lay-up service there.

There are already seven non-company Very Large Crude Carriers (VLCCs) mothballed in Brunei and the B.P. annual report said it was unlikely demand would match supply in the crude tanker market before the mid-1980's.

Asked whether the two month closure of B.P.'s largest refinery at Rotterdam in Holland might be followed by similar closures, B.P. officials yesterday only replied the group was studying measures to curt-ail losses and that there were "many possibilities".

Iran expresses OPEC dollar concern over

VIENNA, March 31 (R). -Iranian Finance Minister Mohammad Yeganeh said yesterday oil-exporting nations wo-uld be forced to protect their financial interests if the U.S. dollar maintained its downward slide.

"We hope and expect that measures taken by the U.S. government in order to stop the further erosion of the doliar are successful so that no steps will be necessary by OPEC members to safeguard their interests," Dr. Yeganeh

The 13 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exp-

orting Countries (OPEC) are considering whether to drop the dollar as a price-calculating currency for oil. This will be a key issue when OPEC oil ministers meet in Geneva on May 4.

Dr. Yeganeh spoke at a press conference at OPEC's Vienna headquarters after a senior official said OPEC countries were losing between \$12 billion and \$17 billion a year because of the declining dollar.
"If the erosion continues,

naturally OPEC members will have to take steps to safeguard their interests," the Iranian minister said.

Zambia reduces copper exports to boost price

LUSAKA, March 31 (R). -- Zambia said yesterday it was reducing copper exports, its main source of foreign exchange, in an apparent attempt to force up the world price of the mineral.

It blamed transport and production difficulties and said about a sixth of its exports would be affected.

The land-locked country is in the throes of an economic crisis caused partly by the world slump in copper prices in 1974-75. Copper provides 95 per cent of its foreign in-

A spokesman for the stateowned Metal Marketing Corporation (Memaco) said the suspension would hit sales negotiated for delivery in May and would last until further notice. "We sincerely hope that this move will contribute to higher prices of copper," Me-maco Managing Director Law-

rence Mutakshu told a press conference. Zambia earlier agreed with two other major producers, Zaire and Peru, to reduce copper output by 15 per cent to

try to improve prices. Zambia last year produced about 650,000 tons of copper but made losses of about 31 million kwacha (about \$39 mil-

U.S. economic index shows no improvement in February

WASHINGTON, (AP). - The U.S. government's measure of future economic trends showed no improvement in February after recording its steepest decline in three years the month be-fore, the U.S. Commerce De-

partment said yesterday.

The index of leading indicators was unchanged in February after declining 1.3 per cent in January, the largest drop since a 3 per cent decline in January 1975.

Economists usually expect the indicators to rise gradually if the economy is to remain healthy. However, they are expecting a weak first qu-

March 31 arter because of severe winter weather and the coal strike. The department originally thought the January decline was 1.9 per cent, but it changed the figure to 1.3 per cent today because of an improved outlook for business spending.
Six of the ten indicators

available for February, including some of the most important, showed increases.

Government economists say it may be April before the economy rebounds, and they are hoping for a recovery as strong as the one that followed the severe winter last vear.

French authorities examine tanker wreck following bombing

PORTSALL, France, March 31 (R). — French maritime authorities today examine the wreck of the supertanker Amoco Cadiz to determine whether any oil is left in its holds after two days of bombing ope-

Yesterday, three helicopters dropped a dozen 170-kilo (375pound) depth charges on the mid-section of the tanker, wh-ich ran aground off the Brittany coast two weeks ago. They had bombed other sections of the ship the day before.

Maritime officials in Brittany said divers would probably examine the ship's hull today to determine whether any fun. ther action was needed but added they were fairly certain the depth charges had comple ted the task.

The bombing operation was ordered to release the final 20,000 tons of oil because incal residents feared a slow in ak would develop, requiring constant anti-pollution efforts

for months As the last crude oil seeped from the tanker, authorities in Cherbourg said they had called off an alert in the area, which includes the Channel Islands. because they believed was no longer any risk that it would drift there.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON, (R). — Following are the buying and selling rates to leading world currencies against the dollar at the close of interbank trading on the London foreign exchange market last night. Tourist rates will differ from those quoted below.

One sterling . . . 1.8610/30

2.1450/1500 1.8250/8350 4.56/4.57 851.00/75 221.00/50 4.5845/65 5.3015/35 , 5.5590/5610

Dutch guilders Swiss francs French francs Italian lire Japanese yen Swedish crowns Norwegian crowns Denish crowns.

LONDON MARKET

Stock prices eased Friday following renewed weakness of sterling on foreign exchange markets and on some speculation of a rise in interest rates in the near future, dealers said. At 15:00 hrs, the F.T. index was down 5.1 at 462.6. Government bonds closed up to 1/4 easier but as much a

5/16 above lowest levels in light trading, dealers said. Equities drifted lower on end-account technicalities but recovered slightly during the afternoon, dealers said. However, gold shares rose with the bullion price and Australian issues firmed

U.S. and Canadian shares advanced. Unilever, ICI, Fisons and Glaxo fell by between 5p and 7-1/2p among easier industrials. Lucas gained 4p to 278-1/h against the trend following higher than expected interim profits Reckitt and Colman fell by 3p to 419-1/2p on further consideration of final results.

Royal Dutch rose by 1/8 to 46-5/8. Lloyds fell by 5p t

Price of gold closed in London Friday at \$181.60/oz.







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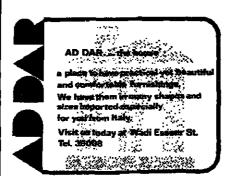


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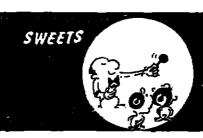










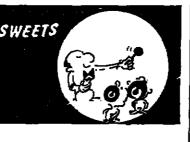














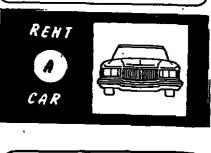














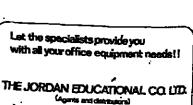






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FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1978

defining the form the Conditions in affect today and tonight, but you difficult conditions in affect today and tonight, but you can overcome them by being warm and charming to those you come in contact with. Be more thoughtful of others.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Make sure that you handle outside responsibilities in clever way at this time. Allow time to make plans for the future.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Make a new contact we great assistance to you in the future. Think in career matters.

ides the the handling monetary matters at this time. Show more they the handling monetary matters at this time. Show more thought to your mate now and get excellent response.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Make sure you may be the providerate of associates and you get better results

now. Avoid unnecessary expenditures of money. LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Ideal day to put personal

affairs in better order and establish more harmony with family members. Strive for happiness. VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Try to please congenials

more and thus have better relations in the future. Plan time to engage in favorite hobby. LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Show more interest in

others and put aside any past misunderstandings for best results. Be careful of one who opposes you. SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Organize your work so

that you can gain finer benefits. Ideal time to clear up any misunderstanding you may have with loved one. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Make long-range

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plans to have greater abundance in the future. Put aside more money for any possible emergencies.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Not a good day to visit a friend who could be quite demanding now. Await a better time when you can cope with this person.

· AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) If you are more kind and courteous of those you love, you get better results with them. Engage in pleasant activities.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Ideal day to show more thought for older persons who have been good to you. Not a good time for group activities.

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ROMANCE

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Sudan's Six Year Plan looks like solving major communication and transport problems

By John Worrall

KHARTOUM (F.T.) - The Sudan is Africa's largest country. There are one million square miles of it. In the pipeline are vast, expensive plans for agricultural development; more cotton, more maize, more groundnuts, more beef, more sheep. There is plenty of water, and the Blue and White Niles have been tamed for electricity and irrigation. Vast areas are extremely fertile. In some parts there are very good rains.

The eternal bottleneck is communications. There are not enough roads, not enough railways. There is not even enough river transport, though this is the classic mode of Sudan travel. Huge developments in the past have been planned for the country without much thought of getting goods and people from A to B.

Six Year Plan

That is changing now. The current Six Year Plan puts down a figure of £\$500 m. (£1 = Sudanese pound 00.66) for transport and communications. Of that £S249.54 m. is being spent on new roads and the improvement of old ones. Some Sudanese roads are mere tracks in the sand.

Modernising, extending and improving the Sudan Railways is to be given £\$78.37 m. This suggests a shift in emphasis to roads from railways, which up till now have been the most important means of Sudan transport.

Today there are only 450 kms, or tarred roads and 1,700 kms. of gravel roads in the whole Sudan. There are 4,757 kms, of railway. Some tracks, and one suspects some rolling stock -- date back to the days of Kitchener. Many miles of vital roads

are impassable during the rainy season. Everything stops. Railways can be washed away. A friend of mine travelled from Khartoum to Juba recently, mostly over desert tracks. In the south Sudan, which was ravaged by civil war for 17 years, roads had been mined and bridges destroyed.

Trains are slow because of the narrow gauge track. It recently took me 20 hours to travel about 480 kms by train from Khartoum to Ed Damazin, on the Blue Nile, the centre of ambitious new agricultural developments.

Roads take the lead

Part of the track leading from Khartoum to Port Sudan, the country's only port, is being doubled. But it looks fr-

The biggest country in Africa has less than 300 miles are going into service, impof tarred road. But things are changing in Sudan, and even the nineteenth-century river-boats on the Nile at Khartoum may soon find themselves part of a modern transport plan for an ancient country.

om the Development Plan figures as though roads in future will be king.

It seems that the government is banking on the discovery of oil in the south where Chevron has a 100,000 square mile concession, with one rig in use and another to come. The company is spending \$12

m. in exploration.
A splendid new bridge is being built to span the White Nile at Kosti, on the main railway line from Khartoum to Wau in the south, the furthermost point of the railway. The longest bridge in Africa, it is being constructed by an Italian firm with World Bank and Italian aid and is to cost \$35 m. It replaces the old road and railway bridge, which is so narrow that pilots are available at either end to take cars and lorries across. Built by the British, the story goes that it was intended only to take Bedford trucks.

Next year is the target for the completion of the trunk road from Khartoum to Port Sudan, a fine highway

will ease the pressure on the railway. By that time the oil pipeline from Port Sudan will also be built, removing more pressures on road and rail-

New roads are also being taken into the new agricultural and industrial areas round Damazin and Kosti, not to speak of the new \$400 m. agricultural scheme at Rahad, on the Blue Nile, where firstphase irrigation from the Roseires Dam will bring water to 300,000 acres and 16,000 tenant familles growing cotton and groundnuts. It is the biggest agricultural scheme in the Sudan after Gezira— itself known as "the biggest farm in the world."

River transport

Historically, river transport on the two Niles has played a large part in the develop-ment of Sudan's economy. Though taking third place in the plans for future transport (the Six Year Plan allocates

roved cargo-handling services are envisaged and cargo capacity is being stepped up. The Victorian river steamers may be on the way out or refurbished, if possible, for the tourists the Sudan is anxious to attract.

Dramatic changes have be-

en taking place at Port Sudan, where congestion has been so bad that some ships have had to wait two months to unload, and last year there were always about 30 waiting in the harbour. A new man at the top, Brig, Gen, Mustafa Oman, has launched a cleanup campaign and the average number of ships waiting in the port is now about three. In one period of five days 28 ships entered the port to discharge 50,000 tons. Surcharge paid to shipping lines to compensate for delays has been re-duced from 45 per cent to 15 per cent. There were salary rises all round to the 5,000 Sea Ports Corporation empl-

The irony is that in splte of this cleanup at the Sudan's only port, the railways are seriously overburdened. Last month 120,000 tons of customs-cleared cargo was awaiting onwards transport, and there were 360,000 tons of un-

Air transport must not be forgotten, though this is a minor problem because of its relatively small contribution to the transport of people and goods. Two Boeing 707's are now in use on international flights and two Boeing 737's for internal use, plus the more traditional Fokker Friendships. Khartoum Airport Is being improved, and developments are earmarked in the Six Year Plan for Port Sudan, Juba, Way and Malakal airports to

take large jets. This development will improve to some extent the serious transport situation in the south Sudan, but Juba is looking increasingly to Kenya to supply it with goods, even petrol, and as an outlet for exports. The Norwegians are rebuilding the road into Keny: and in a few years' time fleets of lorries will rumble into the south Sudan from

A rather better road links Kenya with the south Sudan through Uganda, But not every truck-driver likes to take his chances at the hands of Idi Amin's undisciplined sol-

- Financial Times

From economy to sport, New Zealand's worst drought ever makes its presence felt

By Dai Hayward

WELLINGTON (F.T.) — A New Zealand member of parliament has called on churches to pray for rain. Farmers are preparing to slaughter stock and the government has allocated hundreds of thousands of dollars to transport sheep and cattle more than 200 miles to find food and wa-

one community residents are showering under a local scenic waterfall because houschold water supplies have run dry. New Zealand is experiencing its worst drought in history.

been virtually no rain since November. The normally lush farming areas, renowned for their green grass, are now burnt brown, denuded of grass and water from weeks of scorching sunshine.

Worst hit have been sheep and dairy farmers. Dairy cows started to dry off in mid-Feb-

ANY THOUGHTS

SUBJECT, PET

PEANUTS

出

60

FLINTSTONES

HAVE TO HURRY HOME

TODAY, SCHOOL ... WE'RE

GOING TO VISIT MY UNCLE

DON'T YOU

GO TO THE

ruary. Soon many farmers were milking only once a day and by the middle of this month milk production had nose-

Meat producers have seen lambs being prepared for world markets lose weight and condition as feed disappeared from the fields.

Emergency report

In a special emergency report prepared for the government the Department of Agriculture listed area after area where the drought conditions had prevented any growth of grass at all for up to one hun-

Farmers have had to use up grain and winter feedstocks to keep their breeding flocks alive. This has pushed up grain prices and Federated Farmers officials have called for a price freeze.

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UNCLE WHO

The New Zealand economy depends on its farm exports and the drought has come at

New Zealand is so short of water that in one place the residents are taking their showers under a waterfall because household water supplies have run dry. For the sheep farmers who bring in most of the country's money, it is even more serious.

worst possible time for the worst possible time for the country. Already under strain, farmers' incomes were expected to drop as much as 40 per cent this year. The drought will create even more problems both for farmers and for the country's econo-

mers have of surviving is to move their stock to areas where feed is still available. For many this means shipping them in huge articulated road transporters more than 200

For many hard pressed farmers this operation could have meant bankruptcy. The

A VERY

PROUD

BUILDING &

New Zealand government is now paying the cost of transporting livestock for 200 kms. If farmers have to go further to keep their animals alive, the government will pay 50 per cent of the additional transport costs. The government is also paying \$NZ.25 a ton

Droughts not uncommon

Local droughts are not uncommon in New Zealand and in fact every two or three years some area usually suffers from prolonged dry spells. What has made the 1978 dro-

WHEN THE

HOCKEY

MOVED, IT

BROKE HIS

HEART

FRANCHISE

ught so serious is firstly its intensity and secondly the widespread area affected. The drought situation is off-

icially described as "critical" in all farming areas from Otago in the extreme south, right through to North Auckland and most of the North Island.

In Taranaki, one of the major dairying areas, only two mm of rain fell in a month. Rainfall between January 1st and late March is less than one third of normal, Other parts of New Zealand have had less than one quarter of the normal rainfall between

November and mid March. Canterbury, home of the famous Canterbury lamb, the Wairarapa and the fruit growing areas in Hawkes Bay and North Otago are all desperate for rain.

Worried officials

Agricultural officials and farmers are worried that the effects of the drought will continue into winter because there is now little time left for grass to grow to provide feed for the winter.

Winter feed crops are usually planted in January or February. Those that were planted have withered in the ground, Many farmers have not been able to plant at all and the autumn frosts are due in April.

Some areas with large irrigation schemes bringing water on the farms escaped the effects of the drought in the early stages but now even they have been hit. All water supplies for irrigation schemes have been cut by 50 per cent and many farms, espe-cially in the South Island, have run out of irrigation water completely.

Fruit and grain crops have also suffered severely from three months with almost no Householders

everywhere, including the cities, are also affected by the prolonged drought. There is a widespread ban on the use of garden hoses, sprinklers and other water consuming activities. Outeven portable barbecues -- a

great favourite with New Zealanders in summertime are banned.

Seawater to flush tollets

In one town near the capital, Wellington, householders have been carrying buckets of seawater to flush their toilets. In another, household water supplies have dried up to such an extent that residents are taking turns to shower under

a local waterfall. In Wellington, water is being carried by tanker to peopie in outlying suburbs. Wasning curs is panned

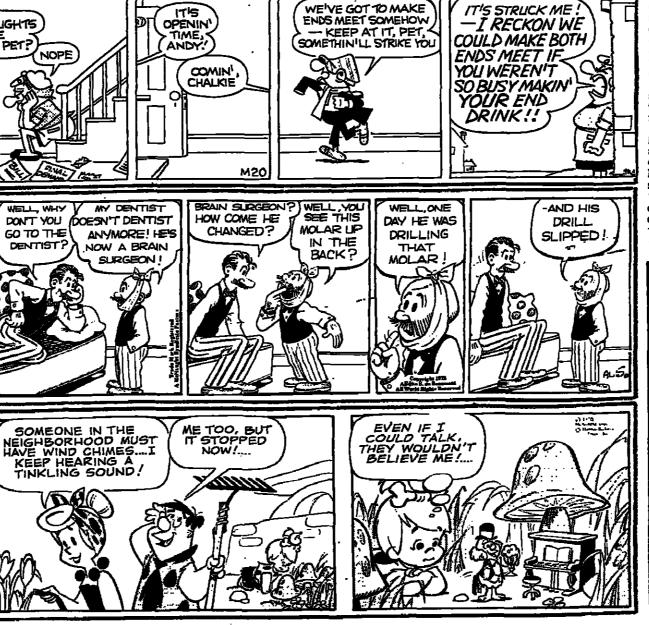
the minister of Energy, the Hon GF Gair. a two per cent reduction in electricity consumption througnout the country because water storage in the country's hydro lakes was falling rapid-

Ironically, one of the worst ahected areas is the major lamb producing area of the Wairarapa. Last November this was devastated by floods which washed away topsoil and turned farms into a quagmire. Hundreds of thousands of young lambs were lost. Now, before farmers have had a chance to recover from

the effects of floods they are battling with the other ext-reme -- day after day of searing sunshine, lack of rain and bare, burnt fields. When rains do come, hundreds of acres of the Tairarapa will have to be re-sown with grass before it can support sheep flocks. To help, the government has announced it will pay up to \$40 a hectare

towards the cost of re-sowing

Although summer sports men are benefitting from the long, hot days. New Zealand's major sport -- rugby -- is suffering. Traditionally, rugby teams begin training early in March and play their first matches before the end of the month. Last week several rugby matches were played on concrete hard grounds in te-mperatures of 26°C-30°C







With all Italy's parties backing

Christian Democrats refuse to negotiate deal with Red Brigades

ROME, March 31 (R). — Italian political parties today united in backing the ruling Christian Democrats in their refusal to negotiate a deal with the Red Brigades kidnappers of former Premier Aldo Moro. The Christian Democrats took a hardline stand in a statement last night declaring: "It is not possible to accept the blackmail of the Red Brigades."

Signor Moro, 61-year-old President of the Christian Democrats, was abducted by the Red Brigades urban guerrillas 15 days ago. His five bodyguards were killed.

He implicitly suggested in a letter to the government ear-lier this week that he might be freed in exchange for jailed

The powerful Communist Party, which supported the mi-nority Christian Democrats in forming a new government earlier this month, came out uncompromisingly against any prisoner swap.

The Communist Party news-

paper L'Unite said in a frontpage editorial: "A democratic government cannot give way to terrorism. This would only lead to more blackmails, more

The secretary of the small Social Democratic Party, Signor Pierluigi Romita, said: "We are for a policy of rigour

A tough line was also advo-

Iranian students launch hunger strike in Sweden

STOCKHOLM, March 31 (Agencies). — More than 80 Iranian students have launched hunger strikes in six cities to pressure the Swedish government, organisations and public opinion to condemn the Iranian government and support the demands of the political

In Bonn, West Germany, Iranian students occupied the office of their country's television correspondent today to protest what they called the undemocratic conditions in

About 25 German police watched them leave peacefully after about an hour.

A spokesman for the strikers in the Swedish capital said the 72-hour strike started early Wednesday.

"If we have no reaction from the Swedish government by then we'll continue for another 72 hours," he said.

He said that similar strikes were being held in the United States, Britain, West Germany, Italy and Austria.

Meanwhile, fresh rioting and attacks on the police out in several parts of Iran yesterday leaving at least two dead and seven wounded, government sources said.

The sources said that in Yazd, about 500 kms, (310 miles) southeast of Tehran, at least two people died when police opened fire on rioters breaking bank windows and attacking police with knives and

This was the fourth successive day of attacks on banks, offices, cinemas and shops in

and firmness,

This was echoed by the far left Proletarian Democrais, who said that not only the life of Signor Moro was at stake, They said workers must unite to defend democratic institu-

In Tehran two motorcyclists threw explosives into two cafes, but no casualties were reported, In Khorramabad, about 350 kms (220 miles) southwest of the capital about 400 people demonstrated in various parts of the city, and prisoners in their country four people were arrested. Government sources said the demonstrations were anti-nation-

> Demonstrations were also reported in other towns. Officials have blamed the disturbances on foreign-inspired elements and Islamic Mar

cated by Giorgio Benvenuto, Socialist leader of Italy's thirdranking Trade Union Federation. "We must reject the Red Brigades' blackmail and the union movement will play its part," he urged.

There was growing suspicion that Signor Moro's letter was written under duress. L'Unita said it was "written under moral and physical pressures such as to eliminate any authenti-

The Vatican newspaper L'Os-servatore Romano described the letter as unlike the political logic and moral rigour of Signor Moro, who was five times premier of Italy.

The Vatican said yesterday it might help to secure his release. Signor Moro, who has been tipped to become the next president, is a personal friend of Pope Paul.

Meanwhile, French police have arrested an Italian wanted in his home country as a member of the extremist Red Brigades, informed sources said

Antonio Bellavita, 40, is among the men whose names were circulated to police throughout Europe by Italian authorities following the kidnapping in Rome of democrat leader Aldo Moro, the sources said. Mr. Bellavita was arrested by police investigating a poli-

tical murder in France, the sources said The Italian is wanted on several counts by the Public Prosecutor Office in Turin and was jailed at Fresnes prison pending an extradition request

from Italian authorities, they

Australia refuses Bangladeshis asylum

requests for political asylum from two Bangladeshis, a Foreign Affairs spokesman said to-

One is an employee at the Bangladesh High Commission here, the other at the embassy in Moscow.

The government decision follows a claim by a clerk at the High Commission, Mr. Fakhrul Alam, 29, that he was a counter-intelligence agent. He said he feared for his life if he returned home because his mili-

CANBERRA, March 31 (R). tary intelligence chief was kileither before or during an abortive coup in Dacca last

Mr. Alam had said other agents at high commissions in Jeddah, Moscow, Tehran, Kat-mandu, Kuala Lumpur and Jakarta also intended applying for asylum in Australia.

The spokesman said there had been requests for political asylum made to the Australian Embassy in Moscow and to the Australian Embassy in another unnamed country. He gave no other details.

to open airport in May

TOKYO, March 31 (R). — The Japanese cabinet today de cided to open Tokyo's controversial and battle-scarred new international airport at Narita in mid-May, an official spokes-

But the fixing of a specific date was held over until another cabinet meeting next Tuesday because of a lack of effective security measures to defend the \$2.6 billion airport from conti nued left-wing attacks, he added

Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda said he was determined to strengthen security at the airport, the opening of which was cancelled on Tuesday following a spectacular weekend attack that wrecked the control tower.

The National Police Agency said it would ask the airport authority to tighten security at Narita, which is presently being guarded around-the-clock by nearly 14,000 riot police.

The measures will include setting up a potentially lethal high-voltage electrified wire fence and a moat around the whole perimeter, with steel plates below ground level to stop turnnelling informed sources said.

Police will also seek a system to make sure that sewage manholes are not used by left-wingers, they said. It was from an uncharted manhole that a commando of extremists launched Sunday's devastating attack.

Meanwhile, police today braced themselves for possible violence at "victory rallies" near the airport during the coming

Fighting between police and left-wingers has taken on fresh dimension with the discovery after the latest attacks of electrified harpoons capable of killing riot police if they touch-

Heated debates have been taking place in government and police circles on how far, including the possible use of sidearms, defence measures should be taken.

The opening of the airport, 60 kms. (40 miles) northeast of Tokyo, has been delayed more than 10 times since 1971. Five people have been killed and more than 8,000 injured in fighting.

U.S. steps up efforts to gain NATO support for neutron weapons

- The United States this week stepped up its efforts to gain the support of its NATO allies for the future deployment of neutron warheads.

Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher is having talks in Bonn and London which diplomatic sources here believe will cover these controversial weapons.

President Jimmy Carter has not yet decided whether to produce the neutron warhead, which is intended to modernise the battlefield weaponry at NATO's disposal.

To be credible as a weapon or as a bargaining counter in arms control talks it would have to be deployed close to potential battlegrounds, NATO sources explain.

NATO officials are saying little about the continuing consultations on the neutron weapon, except to confirm that they are going on.
They played down a Dutch

report last week that a meeting of permanent representatives here of the 15 NATO states was called off because the U.S. was not ready to take a decision.

The report was confirmed by the Dutch Foreign Ministry, and no one here actually de nies it, but NATO officials and diplomats say consultations are going on all the time and meetings can be postponed for

could expect to be given any go-ahead by his allies for the production of the new war-

and European leaders would earn more brickbats than praise in their own countries by publicly endorsing a decision to manufacture them, the sources added

make them is approved by Congress it would take about two years for the weapons to be ready for deployment, NA-TO sources explained.

In that time their effect on arms control negotiations could be assessed, they added. U.S. sources indicated Wash-

ington hoped for some kind of signal on future deployment so that a decision can be taken before the United Nations disarmament debate in May and the NATO summit at the end of that month.

European diplomatic sources questioned whether Mr. Carter

Only the U.S. can make them

Once any U.S. decision to

NATO officials are worried at the Kremlin campaign against the neutron warhead and they say it has a far smaller destructive range than the Soviet SS-18 and SS-20 missiles now being deployed and pointed at Western Europe.

BY CHARLES H. GOREN

AND OMAR SHARIF

9 1978 by Chicago Tribune

Both vulnerable. South

NORTH

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SOUTH

7982

OAQ4

+ A

The bidding:

◆ K 98653

South West North East

Pass 4 💠

Pass Pass

Trump Coup Tommy is as

is to the players at his club.

He is the gentleman who

is something of a rank

amateur in the bidding and

play of the cards except

when faced with a bad trump

break. Then Tommy be-

Tommy at the helm, it was

his card-play technique.

sheer suicide.

Opening lead: Two of .

Pass 2 Pass

Pass 2 NT Pass

deals.

Japan's cabinet decides SWAPO indicates it will not meet Western representatives

WINDHOEK, South West Africa, March 31 (AP). — The South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) in this territory indicated it would not meet with representatives of five Western nations visiting the territory to discuss their latest proposals for Namibian independence.

Sources close to SWAPO said yesterday that the latest Western proposal was given to SWAPO President Sam Nujoma in Zambia, and therefore it was unnecessary to meet envoys from the United States,

tormer member of Bhutto's cabinet detention

QUETTA, Pakistan, March 31 (R). — Tahir Mohammad Khan, a former Minister for Information and Broadcasting, has been placed under house detention for a month, an official announcement said yester-

order. Mr. Khan was a member of

deposed Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's government, which was ousted by a military coup in July 1977.

Earlier this week, Chief Martial Law Administrator

Gen. Zia-ul-Haq extended indefinitely a month-long ban on political activity which was

due to end today.
Observers then said the political atmosphere in the country had been tense since Mr. Bhutto was sentenced to death on March 18 after he was found guilty of ordering a political assassination. He has giv-

en notice of appeal. In Hyderabad, south of here, the Sind provincial government announced it had released six women detained on March 22 for organising demonstrations. Meanwhile, a senior Pakistan

embassy official today in New Delhi said that appeals for mercy for Mr. Bhutto were premature and suggested a lack of confidence in the country and its judicial system. The official was briefing re-

porters as part of a diplomatic offensive to explain the government's case against Mr. Similar briefings were sche-

duled in other capitals round the world to explain the government stand. The spokesman said it was

premature for heads of state and government to appeal for clemency for Mr. Bhutto before his appeal to the Supreme Court was decided. Several countries, including

Egypt, Libya and Kashmir, have appealed to the military regime, either publicly or privately, to spare Mr. Bhutto.

Britain, France, Canada and West Germany.

The envoys arrived here yesterday to present their plan to local black and white leaders in the territory, which is scheduled to become independent from South Africa some time

The West's plan for a peaceful transition to independence and majority rule differs a little from its original plan sub-mitted in New York in Febru-

SWAPO and South Africa differ on the number and location of South African troops in the territory before independence, the South African enclave of Walvis Bay and the role of the South African-appointed administrator and his United Nations counterpart.

The proposals are seen in South Africa as a final bid by the West to find a transition to independence that would include the guerrillas and receive international acceptance. Details of the West's propo-

sals were not available. At the

United Nations in New York, diplomats said the Western pl. an would be presented to the Security Council in late April after all parties involved had a chance to study the plan.

A U.N. spokesman said that after the five ambassadors handed over their latest proposal, Mr. Waldheim "made cl. ear that he was ready to assist in any solution of the problem if mandated by the Security

Council." "Any task assigned to the United Nations in this regard would be performed in full cooperation with all concerned," said a statement on Mr. Wal-dheim's behalf issued by the spokesman, Francois Giuliani

"The proposals," the statement said, "envisage a major role by the U.N. in peacekeep ing and in the supervision and control of elections during the transition period leading to independence."
The statement said that with

the proposals the five handed Mr. Waldheim "a communica-tion", but it did not say what the communication was.

Police may have caught day. No reason was given for the the hillside strangler

LOS ANGELES, March 31 (R). — Police investigating the 13 "hillside strangler" murders charged a 37-year-old hospital worker today with suspicion of

Peter Mark Jones was one of two men being questioned about the killings of young women which have terrorised Los Angeles for the past six

Police said the second man George Shamshak, 27, escaped from prison in Massachusetts last November and came here to live with Mr. Jones, an old friend. He went back to Boston in February, was immediately arrested and then was brought again to Los Angeles when he

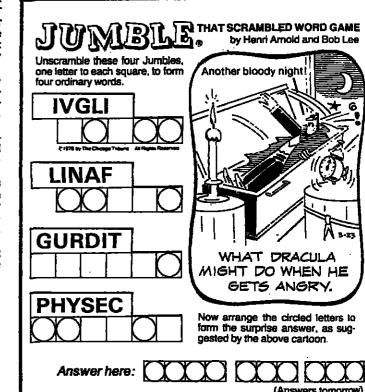
started talking about the hillside murders

All the 13 victims were strangled and some were raped, their nude bodies found on remote hillsides around the

Police said they believed Jones and Shamshak were linked to at least two of the mur-The Boston Herald Ameri-

can newspaper, in a copyright-ed story, said Shamshak told police that he drove a van on expeditions while Jones was in the back with the victims. The Los Angeles television

station last night said police expected one or two more ar-rests which could link all 13



CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANTLER LOCAL NER KIP PAVO SAAR BET PEG VAT WARILY SPATES BUT TAG NIP MUSE 27. Numbers 28. Ceremonial 1. Deep-bodied 30. Hall of Fame herring member Sindbad's ORAL RAH LAW 8. Pasture bird PENAL SENATE SCRIM METER EDDA SEEDY 32. Pepper plant 11. Balsam 34. Lawmaking 12. Absconding Copies bodies 15. Novel 38. Wind instru-YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION Used in fenc- 40. Civil injury 45. Crevice 41. Preserved in 4. Insecticide spreaders Maid Dinomis 43. Dutch com-Maguey Watson or mune Actor Bob ___ __Miserables 3. Potables Seaver Football player Surround

Jumbles: QUASH JERKY SPONGE TIMELY Answer: What a girl might put on as she ends a



13. Infant food Yellow bugle 21. Patient ani-22. Seek favor Neutralizing agent Go back over 25. Filaments 26. Finds 29. King Arthur's lance 33. Freight boat 35. Lacerated Assam 37. Pedicel 38. Unclose 3/25 39. Misfortune

Scientists strive more "killing power" in nerve gases

By James Foley

BRUSSELS, (R). - You can't see them; you can't smell them; you can't taste them. But brilliant scientific minds have developed them to kill

in mid-step.
One of them is called propyl methylphosphonoflouridate. They are nerve gases, and oth Eastern and Western scientists are working to increase their killing power. They are designed for use

against human beings and

NATO claims the Soviet Union has a huge stockpile of nerve gases and other equally horrific chemicals for use in The United States, convinced that only the threat of huge American stockpiles of chemical weapons prevented the

using their own during World War II, also maintains a chemical warfare capability. And the Americans used chemicals widely in the Vietnam war to defoliate forests

Japanese and Germans from

and destroy rice crops. Special shell

NATO sources, expert in chemical warfare, said the Americans have developed a special shell to fire nerve gas from an artillery gun.

Two non-lethal chemical components are separated inside the shell by a membrane. When the shell is fired the shock

of the explosion bursts the membrane and the two chemicals mix in flight to become deadly.

How toxic are the nerve agents and how do they kill? The NATO sources said exposure for a minute to 10 milligrammes of the chemicals in a cubic metre of air results in death.

The tiniest drop in an aerosol spray from an airburst warhead will kill you in minutes unless you are complet-ely protected," said an expert. "If a nerve agent were dumped on you in liquid form, say from an attacking aircraft, you would be killed on the spot, while you were run-ning away, in mid-step," he

Acetylcholine poisoning The nerve agents, closely related to organo-phosphorous insecticides, kill by stopping the body from disposing of the chemical acetylcholine released from nerve endings. The body uses this chemical

to conduct nerve impulses. Their effect is to cause a person to build up acetylcho-line, within his body and so

poison himself. A fatal dose of nerve gas would have the following progressive effects on a person -- his nose would run, he would sweat, he would vomit, he would choke, he would go blind, his muscles would twi-

tch and convulse, he would experience involuntary defeca-tion and urination, his heart and/or his respiratory system would fail and he would die.

The only effective protection against nerve agents, (which can enter the body through the skin, eyes or respira-tory system), is complete coverage of the body with an anti-chemical warfare sult and the use of respirator.

If affected, special antidotes must be given quickly to mu-scular parts of the body, such as the thigh, to stop the effects of the agents.

Problem of detection

A major problem in dealing with a nerve gas attack is detection, because they are odourless, colourless and taste-

"Soldiers can be half dead through inhalation of nerve gases before they know what happening," said an expert. However, although it is difficult, and takes too long to be

any help, there are chemical

means of detecting the presen-

ce of nerve gas. But there is no known method of detecting other war chemicals, choking agents such as carbonyl chloride (phos-

This gas damages the pulmonary system, leading to heart A man can take more than

48 hours to die during which

his breathing will become more shallow, he will have a painful cough, he will droot a yellow liquid, and his pulse will weaken while racing to 150 beats a minute before circulatory

Deadly cyanide

of the war gases is hydrogen cyanide. A few breaths can kill you where you stand from res-

piratory failure.

If death is delayed the brain will be damaged, the sources known in the chemical warfare

seconds after inhalation. Death will follow within 40 seconds

World War I Scientists are still not com-pletely sure how the gas, which was first developed by the Ger-mans in 1917, works on the

grave damage to the eyes, throat and skin, symptoms that a person has received a dose may not appear for days -when it is too late to do anything about it.

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One of the quickest killers

The sources said cyanide, business as a blood agent, will cause violent convulsions 20

of that. The least lethal of all the chemical warfare gases are blister agents such as the mustard gas (sulphur mustard) of

human body.

Although it can cause lasting

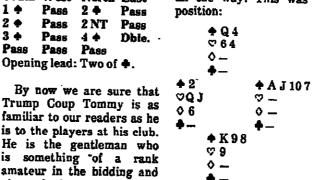
A bad dose can lead to bronchitis. Death can follow in a few days or be delayed for up to a month, the sources said.

club and Tommy captured the jack with the ace. It seemed that the suit was splitting 4-4, and that East held the high cards in the suit-after all, it was reasonable to play him for something more than trump length. Tommy saw that an

CORED BRIDGE

unusual ending might develop if he could cash his red-suit winners and ruff out dummy's clubs.

Therefore, he entered dummy with the king of hearts to ruff a club, crossed back to the king of diamonds and ruffed another club, then re-entered with the ace of hearts to ruff dummy's last club. Now he intended running diamonds until East ruffed, but East followed all the way. This was the



Tommy exited with the nine of hearts, and East had to ruff. Whatever he did, comes a veritable genius in he was destined to make East's double had little only one more trick. He chose to exit with the ten of to commend it in any circumstance. With Trump Coup spades. Dummy's queen won, and a spade toward the king assured Tommy of West led his fourth-best an overtrick.

م كذا من الأمنى